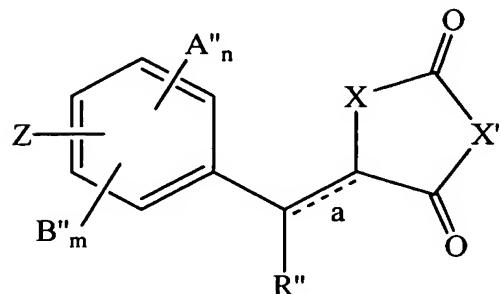


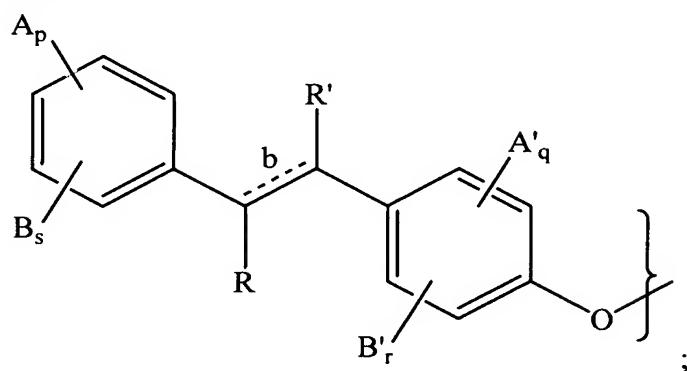
What is claimed is:

1. A compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}'''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}'''$; $-\text{NR}_2'''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}'''$; $-\text{CONR}_2'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

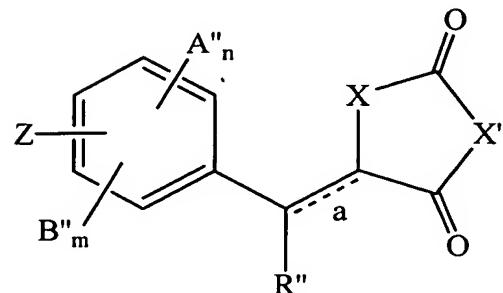
A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

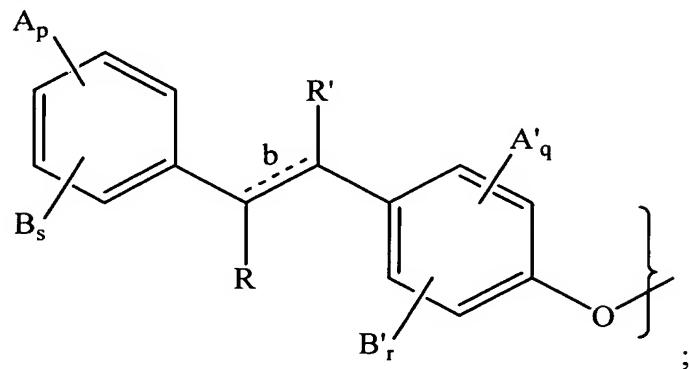
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

2. A compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



H; A''; or B'';

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; -CONR₂''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

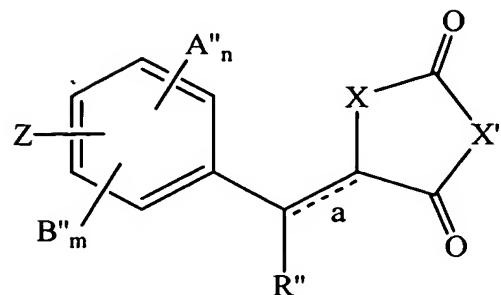
A" independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

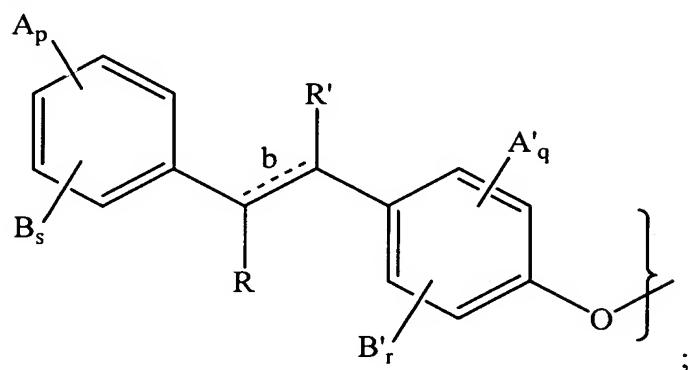
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

3. A compound represented by the following formula 1:

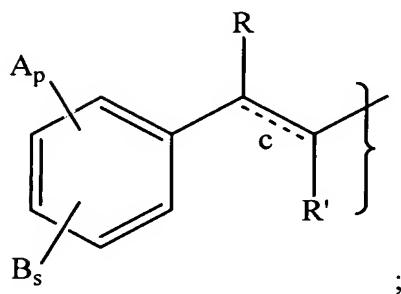


[1]

wherein Z is



or



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m \leq 4 and q + r \leq 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s \leq 5; a, b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR''''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR''''; -CONR₂''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR''''; -NR₂'''; -OR''''; -CONR₂''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR''''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

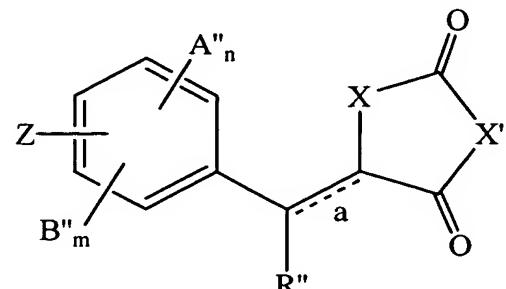
A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

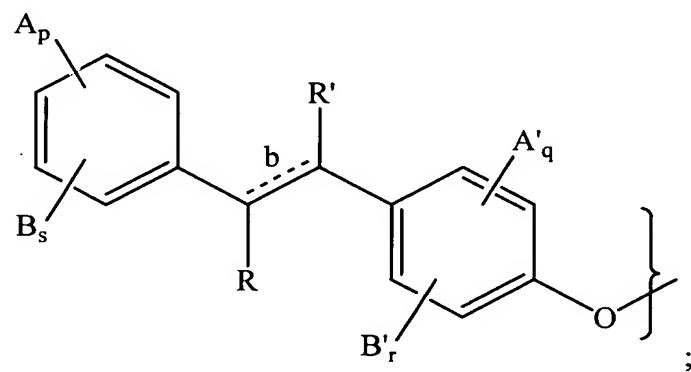
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'''', -O-, or -S-.

4. A compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR''''; -NR₂''''; -OH; -OR''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

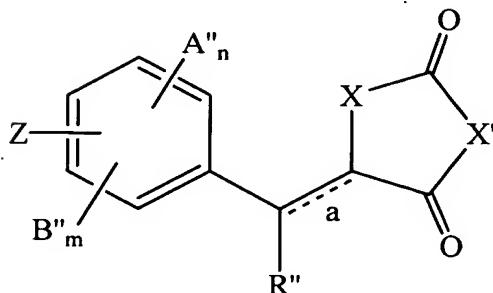
A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

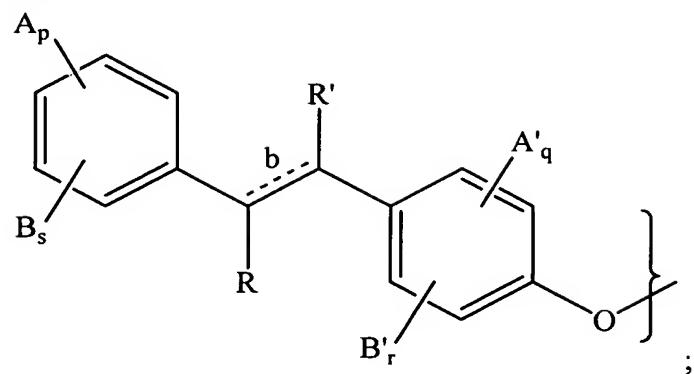
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

5. A compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



H; A''; or B'';

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR''''; -NR₂''''; -OH; -OR''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR''''; -NR₂''''; -OH; -OR''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

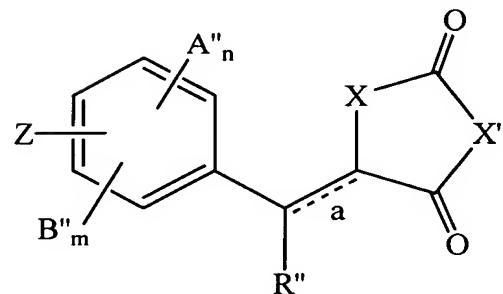
A" independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

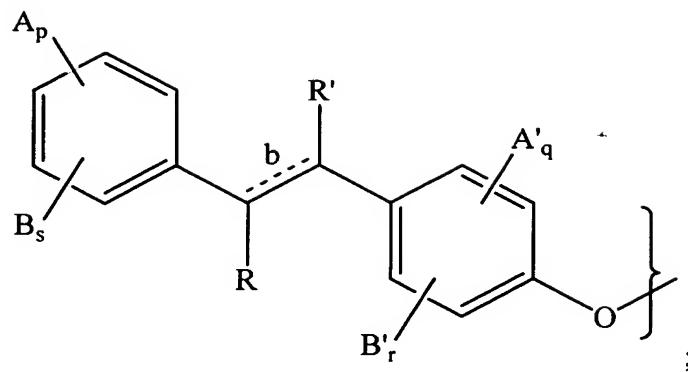
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

6. A compound represented by the following formula 1:

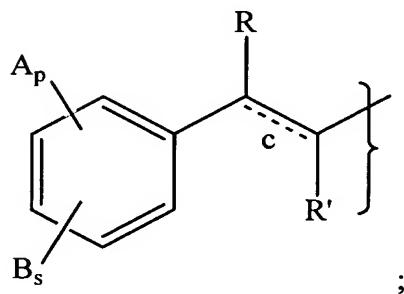


[1]

wherein Z is



or



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a, b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OR'''; -CONR₂''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

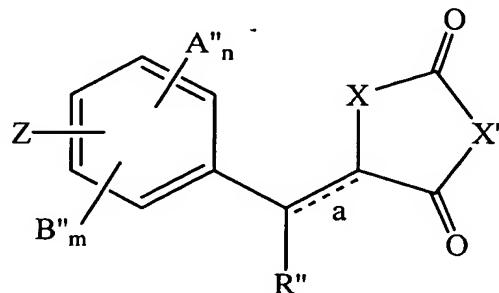
7. The compound of claim 1 that is 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid.

8. The compound of claim 1 that is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide.

9. The compound of claim 1 that is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide.

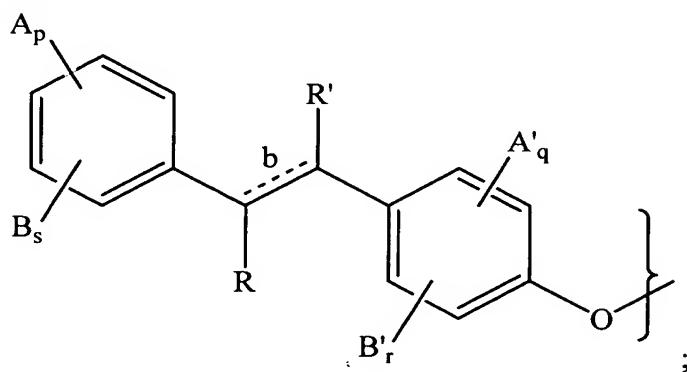
10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m \leq 4 and q + r \leq 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s \leq 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; -CONR₂''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR''' halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

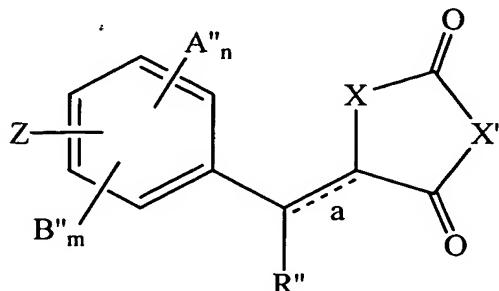
or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-; and

- b) a physiologically acceptable carrier .

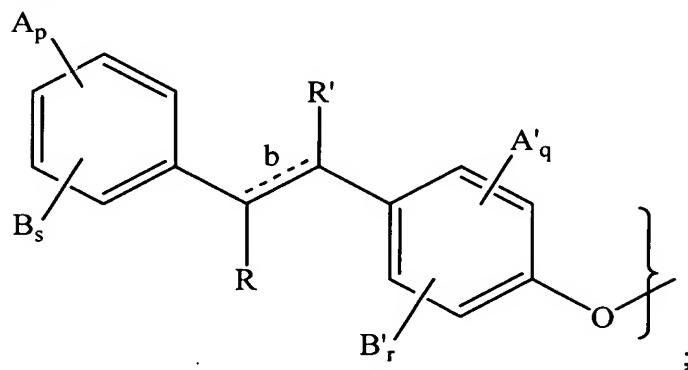
11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



H; A''; or B'';

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; -CONR₂''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

A" independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

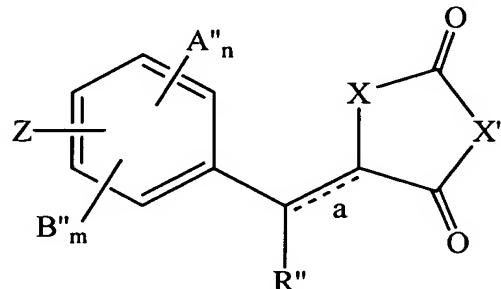
or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-; and

b) a physiologically acceptable carrier.

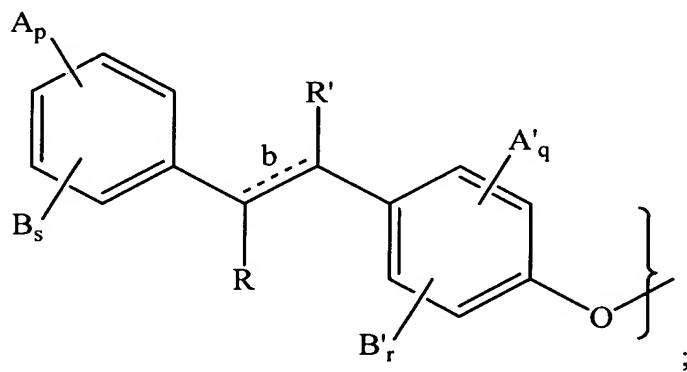
12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:

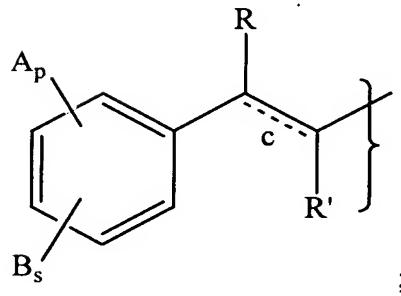


[1]

wherein Z is



or



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a, b and c represent double bonds which may be

present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR''''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR''''; -CONR₂''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR''''; -NR₂'''; -OR''''; -CONR₂''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''''; -NH₂; -NHR''''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

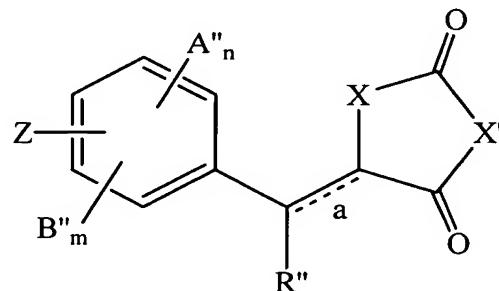
or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'''', -O-, or -S-; and

- b) a physiologically acceptable carrier.

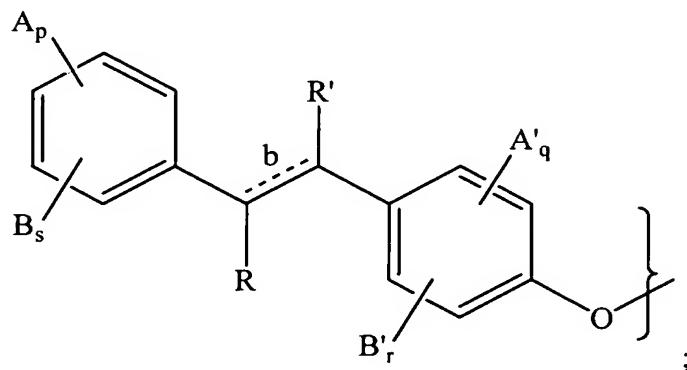
13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5

provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkyl; linear or branched $C_2\text{-}C_{20}$ alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}'''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}'''$; $-\text{NR}_2'''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched $C_2\text{-}C_{20}$ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkyl; linear or branched $C_2\text{-}C_{20}$ alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}'''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}'''$; $-\text{NR}_2'''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched $C_2\text{-}C_{20}$ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkyl; linear or branched $C_2\text{-}C_{20}$ alkenyl; or $-(\text{CH}_2)_x\text{-Ar}$, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A , A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ acylamino; $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ acyloxy; $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkanoyl; $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkoxy carbonyl; $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkoxy; $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkylamino; $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B , B' and B'' each independently represent; $C_2\text{-}C_{20}$ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched $C_1\text{-}C_{20}$ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched $C_2\text{-}C_{20}$ alkenyl;

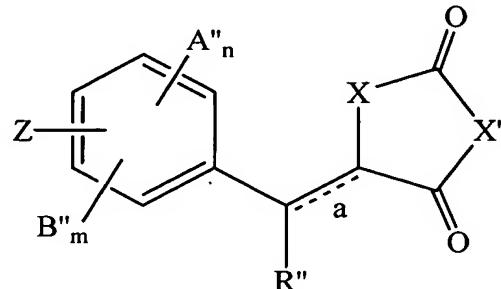
or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-; and

- b) a physiologically acceptable carrier.

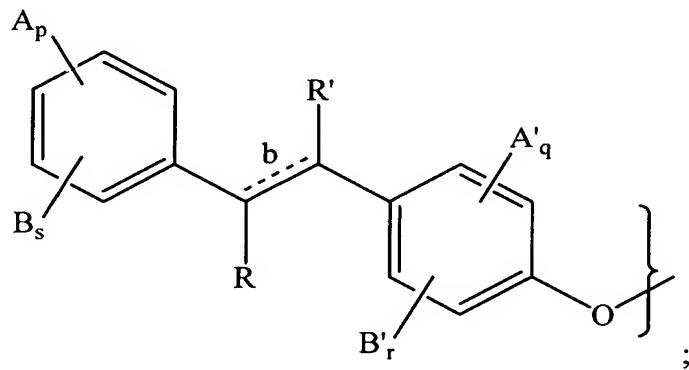
14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



H; A''; or B'';

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m \leq 4 and q + r \leq 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s \leq 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

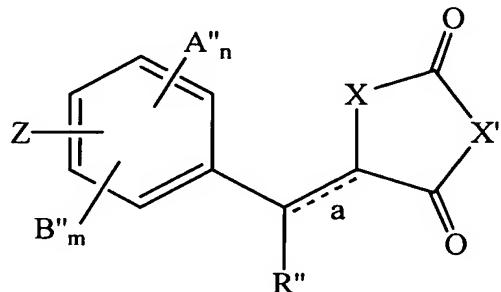
A" independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

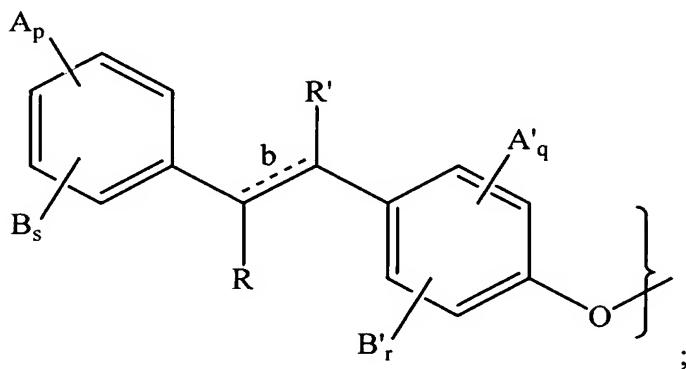
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'''', -O-, or -S-; and

- b) a physiologically acceptable carrier.
15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
- a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:

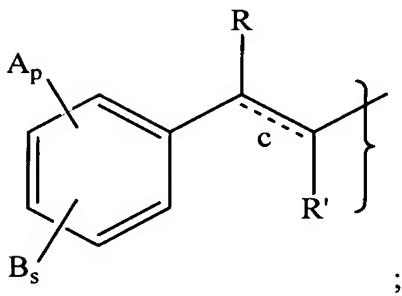


[1]

wherein Z is



or



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a, b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z

configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR''' halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OR''' -CONR₂'''' halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R''' -NH₂; -NHR''' -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR''' halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-; and

b) a physiologically acceptable carrier.

16. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said compound represented by formula I is 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid.

17. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said compound represented by formula I is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide.

18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said compound represented by formula I is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide.